

a1 1997, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

✓  
Please replace the paragraph at page 3, line 7 to page 3, line 19 as follows:

a2 In view of the foregoing, even less traumatic approaches have been developed for revascularizing a patient, as described in Goldsteen et al. U.S. patent 5,976,178, hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety. With such approaches, a graft (e.g., of saphenous vein) can be delivered to an operative site in the patient through the patient's existing arteries and veins. The graft is typically inserted between two attachment sites in the patient's existing body organs (e.g., between a site along the patient's aorta and a site along the coronary artery downstream from a coronary artery occlusion).

In the Claims

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Please replace claims 2 and 10 with the following amended claims 2 and 10:

a3 2. (Amended) The connector defined in claim 1 wherein the first substructure comprises:  
a ring having convolutions that repeatedly traverse a circumference of the annular structure, the ring being circumferentially enlargeable by straightening out the convolutions to some degree.